GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A B S T R A C T

Public Services – Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Disciplinary cases - Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle – Failed in implementation of guidelines in enumeration of Maize crop damages occurred due to unseasonal rains occurred during April & May 2023 in Bethapudi Village of Repalle Mandal Bapatla District – Prima facie established - Disciplinary action under A.P. Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 - Articles of Charge – Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.177 **Dated: 04/04/2025**

Read the following:

1. From the Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur, Lr.No.AGC02-32026(32)/5/2024, dt.20.07.2024.
2. G.O.Rt.No.554, A&C(Vig.I) Dept., dt.02.09.2024
3. Govt.Memo.No.AGC01-AGRI0AEST/88/2024-VIG-I, A&C(Vig.I) Dept., dt.02.09.2024.
4. From the Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur, Lr.No.AGCO2-32026(32)/5/2024, dt.01.03.2025.

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O R D E R

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of Articles of Charge (Annexure-I), Statement of imputation of misconduct or misbehaviour on which action is proposed to be taken against him as Annexure-II, a list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the Article of Charge is proposed to be sustained are also enclosed as Annexure-III and IV.

3. Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle, is directed to submit a Written Statement of Defense (WSD) within (10) days of the receipt of this order.

4. Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle, is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those Articles of Charge as are not admitted. He should therefore, specifically admit or deny each Articles of Charge.

5. Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle, is further informed that if he does not submit his Written Statement of Defense (WSD) on or before the date specified in para-3 above, or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 or the orders/directions issued in pursuance of the said rules, the Inquiry Authority may hold the inquiry against him exparte.

6. Attention of Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle, is invited to rule 24 of the A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings it will be presumed that he is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of rule 24 of the A. P. Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O.)

7. The receipt of this G.O. shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:

Sri R.Vijaya Babu, Mandal Agriculture Officer, Repalle.
(through the Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur)

Copy to:

The Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur,
(With a request to serve the original G.O. on the Charged Officer and obtain his dated acknowledgement on the Xerox copy and furnish the same along with his Written Statement of Defense (WSD) to the Government)
Sf/Sc.

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd. Annexures...)

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI R.VIJAYA BABU, MANDAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICER, REPALLE.

Article of Charge:

"That the said Sri R.VijayaBabu, MAO, Repalle has failed in implementation of guidelines in enumeration of maize crop damages occurred due to unseasonal rains occurred during April & May - 2023 in Bethapudi village of Repalle Mandal, Bapatla District. He has not followed the guidelines / timelines of crop damage enumeration. Thereby, he failed to follow the guidelines while enumerating the crop damages. The field level functionaries are not taken photograph of crop produce, no display of enumerated list for social audit at RBK/Sachivalayam of Bethapudi village, inclusion of ineligible farmers, some farmers included in the list are neither having CCRC cards nor covered under e-crop booking. There is a difference in the quantity or extent of damage enrolled against affected farmers shows less quantity or low extent of damage which all are violations of the enumeration of the crop damages guidelines. Thereby, the concept of providing input subsidy to the affected farmers is not sustained, which attracts violation of Rule-3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules 1964." Hence the charge.

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

(P.T.O.)

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT OR MIS-BEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI R. VIJAYA BABU, MANDAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICER, REPALLE.

Basis of charge:

Sri Anagani Satya Prasad, Hon'ble MLA, Repalle has addressed a letter to the Principal Secretary, Agriculture & Co-operation Department, Andhra Pradesh on 01.07.2023 and raised certain allegations against Sri G.Leela Naga Sai, VAA, Kum. U.ArunaKumari, MPEO, Sri R.VijayaBabu, MAO, Repalle and Sri Sd.Hatchar Hussain, ADA on the crop damage enumeration occurred during the unseasonal rains in the month of May-2023 in Bethapudi village of Repalle Mandal. Accordingly, in Memo No. AGCO1-Agri00THM/143/2023-Agri-2, dated:13.07.2023 of the Chief Commissioner, RBKs and Special Chief Secretary to Government has forwarded the representation with instructions to examine the matter in detail and furnish action taken report. Further, the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur, through e-mail on 17-07-2023, has issued instructions to furnish a detailed report on the representation of the Hon'ble MLA, Repalle.

Accordingly, through C&DA, A.P., Guntur, Proc. No.PP.II/89/2023, dated:28.07.2023, Smt. M.Vijaya Nirmala, DDA, O/o DTC, DRC, Bapatla has been appointed as enquiry officer and Sri B.Efraiym, ADA Chirala has been appointed as presenting officer to conduct enquiry on the allegations raised by Sri Anagani Satya Prasad, Hon'ble MLA, Repalle.

The DDA, DTC, DRC, Bapatla and Enquiry Officer, has conducted a detailed enquiry on 24-08-2023 and 23-09-2023 and submitted the enquiry report in Lr.No.A/20/2023, dated: 31.10.2023.

In the enquiry report, it was established that the farmers of Bethapudi Village have submitted their statements on the following violations committed by the departmental staff in enumeration of crop damages occurred due to unseasonal rains in May-2023.

1. The photographs of the crop damaged produce have not been taken as per the guidelines.
2. Enumeration list was not displayed at RBK / Sachivalayam for social audit purpose as per timelines.
3. Lists provided from MAOs office are different from the lists taken from the DAO office and in the lists provided by the MAO, some names were deleted intentionally.
4. Farmers who were included in the list without having CCRC cards or without covering under e-crop booking.
5. The difference in the quantity or extent of damage enrolled against affected farmers, shows less quantity or low extent of damaged against the farmers.
6. Ineligible farmers were included in lists having neither land nor CCRC cards.

The enquiry Officer has conducted a detailed enquiry on the above allegations with reference to the records and materials available and submitted the enquiry report stating that the filed level functionaries have not followed the guidelines/ timelines issued by the Special Commissioner of Agriculture, AP, Guntur and Collector & District Magistrate, Bapatla in enumeration of Maize crop post-harvest losses occurred in the month of April & May-2023 and the allegations raised by the farmers are proved.

(Contd.p.3)

Further in Lr.No.Estt.1/157/2023,dt:15-11-2023, the Collector & District Magistrate, Bapatla has submitted the enquiry report to the Special Commissioner of Agriculture, AP, Guntur with a request to take necessary action against the MAO, Repalle for the lapses noticed in enumeration of the post-harvest losses in Maize for the heavy rains occurred in May-2023 in Bethapudi village of Repalle Mandal.

Sri R.Vijaya Babu, MAO, Repalle failed to implement the enumeration work as per the guidelines/timelines in enumeration of crop post-harvest losses. He failed in preparation of enumeration lists properly, display for social audit, receiving the objections and taking up rectifications in the final list. Because of his lapses, the purified data of the actual affected farmers has not happened. It shows his failure in attending MAOs duties in preparation of proper crop damage enumeration list. Hence, the charge.

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS, BY WHICH ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI R.VIJAYA BABU, MANDAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICER, REPALLE ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

1. Representation of Sri Anagani Satya Prasad, Hon'ble MLA, Repalle, dt:01-07-2023.
2. Memo No. AGCO1-Agri 00THM/143/2023-Agri-2, dated: 13.07.2023 of the Chief Commissioner, RBKs and Special Chief Secretary to Government.
3. e-mail instructions of the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, AP, Guntur, dt:17-07-2023.
4. Proc. No.PP.II/89/2023, dated:28-07-2023.
5. Lr.No.A/20/2023, dated: 31.10.2023.
6. Lr.No.Estt.1/157/2023, dt:15-11-2023 of the Collector & District Magistrate, Bapatla,

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF WITNESS BY WHOM THE ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINSTSRI. R.VIJAYA BABU, MANDAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICER, REPALLE ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

-NIL-

Sd/- B. RAJSEKHAR
EX-OFFICIO SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER